

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-21, 23-25 and 27-34 are pending in the present application. By this Response, claims 1, 8, 12-14, 21, 24 and 25 are amended and claims 9, 22 and 26 are canceled. Claims 1, 12, 14 and 24 are amended to recite "responsive to receiving the request, determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction; and responsive to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, removing the selected non-required information from the stored information." Claims 8, 13, 21 and 25 are amended to recite "determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request, and removing the stored information in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction." Support for these amendments may be found at least on page 14, lines 11-24 of the current specification and the previously claimed subject matter of claims 9, 22 and 26. Reconsideration of the claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102, Alleged Anticipation, Claims 1-5, 14-18, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 32

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 14-18, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Fukuoka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,916). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As to independent claims 1, 14 and 24, the Office Action states:

Fukuoka is directed to a method of managing user environment information [COL 1 lines 7-10]. While it is considered that Fukuoka clearly anticipates at least some of the claims, the details of anticipation are mapped below:

As to **claim 1**, Fukuoka teaches receiving information from a plurality of users [FIG 1, 1B, 1C; COL 1 lines 42-46] and storing it in a user information managing database [COL 2 lines 2-6]. The system receives a request to remove selected information when a user asks the system manager to remove a user environment [COL 1 lines 42-45; COL 3 lines 1-3]. Asking for either a start or a stop clearly corresponds to a transaction, and Fukuoka points out that a user defines the information in the user database [FIG 1; COL 2 line 54 and after].

The elements of claims 5, 14-18, 24, 27-28 and 31-32 are rejected in the analysis above, and these claims are rejected on that basis.

Office Action dated July 22, 2004, page 3.

Claim 1, which is representative of the other rejected independent claims 14 and 24 with regard to similarly recited subject matter, reads as follows:

1. A method in a data processing system for managing information, the method comprising:
 - receiving information from a plurality of users;
 - storing the information to form stored information;
 - receiving a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user;
 - responsive to receiving the request, determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction; and
 - responsive to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, removing the selected non-required information from the stored information.

A prior art reference anticipates the claimed invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 only if every element of a claimed invention is identically shown in that single reference, arranged as they are in the claims. *In re bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 832, 15 U.S.P.Q.2d 1566, 1567 (Fed Cir. 1990). All limitations of the claimed invention must be considered when determining patentability. *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1582, 21 U.S.P.Q.2d 1031, 1034 (Fed Cir. 1994). Anticipation focuses on whether a claim reads on the product or process a prior art reference discloses, not on what the reference broadly teaches. *Kalman v. Kimberly-Clark Corp.*, 713 F.2d 760, 218 U.S.P.Q. 781 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Applicants respectfully submit that Fukuoka does not teach every element of the claimed invention arranged as they are in the claims. Specifically, Fukuoka does not teach determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction in response to receiving a request to remove selected information, and removing the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction.

Fukuoka is directed to a system in which user environments for utilization of systems differ for individual systems. In the Fukuoka system, a user environment managing method permits a system manager or a user authorized for management to

arrange/remove different user environments. In response to a user environment arranging/removing request by a user, a computer system constituting a user information managing system distributes to a plurality of sub-systems processing procedure files for user environment arrangement/removal and information pieces on individual users.

There is nothing in any section of Fukuoka that teaches determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction in response to receiving a request to remove selected information. The Office Action relies on the removal process executed by the user as described by Fukuoka as teaching these features. This process is described in column 3, line 27 to column 6, line 3 which reads as follows:

In the case where the executing user of the user environment removing request program 103 is either the system manager or an ordinary user who succeeds in authorization, the user environment removing request program 103 generates a user environment removing request packet containing the user ID and a system name which requests removal of a user environment in step 608 and transmits the thus generated packet to the user managing program 104 in the step 609.

When the user managing program 104 receives the user environment removing request packet in the step 711, it transmits the system common processing procedure and system specific processing procedure files 107 and 108 to the processing execution program 112 of the requesting sub-system 111 in the step 714. In the step 713, it depends on the setting by the processing procedure database 109 which one of the plurality of system specific processing procedure files 108 is distributed to which sub-system 111.

The processing execution program 112 places the received processing procedure files 107 and 108 on disks of the sub-system 111 in the step 816 and transmits a result in the step 810.

When the transmittal of the processing procedure is successful in the step 716, the user managing program 104 acquires a setting value 203 for preparation of an environment from the user information managing database 105 in the step 717, converts the user ID into a user environment removing packet in step 720 and transmits the packet to the execution program 112 of interest in the step 721.

The processing execution program 112 receiving the user environment removing packet in the step 811 sets a setting value 203 for arrangement of an environment in the packet on a memory of the sub-system of interest in the step 812 and executes the processing defined in the system common processing procedure and system specific processing procedure files 113 and 114, which have already been distributed, by using the value set on the memory in the steps 813 and 814. In the example shown in FIG. 1, removal of user work location is effected using the system common processing procedure file 116 and removal of an item

such as the charged bill number which is set in different ways for individual sub-systems is effected using the system specific processing procedure file 117.

In this section, the user merely submits a request to remove the user environment and the removing request program generates a packet to remove the user environment which is sent to the user managing program. The user managing program transmits the processing procedure to the processing execution system which issues the appropriate commands to remove the user's environment. Nowhere, in any section of Fukuoka, do the programs determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction. Fukuoka merely determines if the user has authorization to execute a remove request.

Additionally, Fukuoka does not remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction. As shown above, Fukuoka merely removes the entire user environment in response to a request from an authorized user. There is no determination made as to whether the selected information from the stores information is required for the transaction. Thus, Fukuoka does not remove only the selected non-required information.

Thus, Fukuoka does not teach each and every feature of independent claims 1, 14 and 24 as is required under 35 U.S.C. § 102. At least by virtue of their dependency on independent claims 1 and 14, the specific features of dependent claims 2-5, 15-18, 27, 28, 31 and 32 are not taught by Fukuoka. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 14-18, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Furthermore, Fukuoka does not teach, suggest or give any incentive to make the needed changes to reach the presently claimed invention. Absent the Examiner pointing out some teaching or incentive to implement Fukuoka such that a determination is made as to whether the selected information is no longer required for the transaction and the selected non-required information is removed from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be led to modify Fukuoka to reach the present invention when the reference is examined as a whole. Absent some teaching, suggestion or incentive to

modify Fukuoka in this manner, the presently claimed invention can be reached only through an improper use of hindsight using the Applicants' disclosure as a template to make the necessary changes to reach the claimed invention.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Alleged Obviousness, Claims 6-13, 19-23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 33 and 34

The Office Action rejects claims 6-13, 19-23, 25-26, 29-30 and 33-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fukuoka et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,916). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As to independent claims 8, 12, 13, 21 and 25, the Office Action states:

Official notice is taken that it was well known at the time of the invention to use bus systems in communication devices [claims 12 and 13], the Internet as a convenient and efficient network, Web pages [claims 8-11, 21-23, 25-26, 29-30 and 33-34], browsers, credit cards [claims 6, 10, 19 and 23], and applets [claims 7 and 20]. In particular:

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to embody the system of Fukuoka comprising a bus system because it is a standard, efficient, fast, and cheap means of transmitting information within a system.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a credit card number in the system of Fukuoka because it is a convenient means of charging a bill [COL 5, line 65 and after].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to transmit information through the Internet in the system of Fukuoka as network 110 because it provides efficient and cheap access to a very large collection of nodes. **It would have been further obvious** to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to transmit data by way of Web pages because the Web is a cheap and effective component of the Internet.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize applets within the system because they are standard and efficient means of transmitting a process across the web.

Office Action dated July 22, 2004, pages 4-5.

Independent claim 8, which is representative of the other rejected independent claims 13, 21 and 25 with regard to similarly recited subject matter, reads as follows:

8. A method in a data processing system for managing information, the method comprising:
- sending a Web page to a user at a client;
 - receiving a response, wherein the response include the information;
 - processing a business transaction with the client using the information;
 - storing the information to form stored information;
 - receiving a request to remove the stored information;
 - determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request; and
 - removing the stored information in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction.

Claims 8, 13, 21 and 25 recite similar subject matter to that of claims 1, 14 and 24. That is, claims 8, 13, 21 and 25 recite "determining that the stored information is unnecessary to the business transaction in response to receiving the request, and removing the stored information in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction." As discussed above, Fukuoka merely removes the entire user environment in response to a request from an authorized user. Fukuoka does not determine if the stored information is unnecessary to a business transaction nor does Fukuoka remove the stored information in response to the stored information no longer being necessary to the business transaction. Thus, Fukuoka does not teach or suggest the specific features as they are arranged in the presently claimed invention.

Independent claim 12 reads as follows:

12. A data processing system comprising:
- a bus system;
 - a communications unit connected to the bus system;
 - a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and
 - a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to receive information from a plurality of users; store the information to form stored information; receive a request to remove selected information from the stored information from a user within the set of users, wherein the selected information is received in response to a transaction involving the user; determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction, in response to received request; and remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction.

Claim 12 recites similar subject matter to that of claims 1, 14 and 24. That is, claim 12 recites "determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction, in response to received request, and remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction." As discussed above, Fukuoka merely removes the entire user environment in response to a request from an authorized user. Fukuoka does not determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction nor does Fukuoka remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction. Thus, Fukuoka does not teach or suggest the specific features as they are arranged in the presently claimed invention.

Independent claim 11 reads as follows:

11. A distributed data processing system comprising:
 - a network;
 - a plurality of clients connected to the network; and
 - a server connected to the network, wherein the server receives information from the plurality of clients in which the information is received in association with serving Web pages and receiving the information in response to serving the Web pages, stores the information to form stored information, receives a request from a client within the plurality of clients to discard a portion of the information from the stored information, removing the portions of the information from the stored information in response to receiving the request.

Claim 11 recites "receives a request from a client within the plurality of clients to discard a portion of the information from the stored information, removing the portions of the information from the stored information in response to receiving the request." As discussed above, Fukuoka merely removes the entire user environment in response to a request from an authorized user. Fukuoka does not receive a request to discard only a portion of the information from the stored information and remove only the portions of the information from the stored information. Thus, Fukuoka does not teach or suggest the specific features as they are arranged in the presently claimed invention.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully traverses the Official Notice presented in the Office Action. While the elements described in the Office Action may be well known at the time of the invention, Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been

obvious to combine these well known elements with the teachings of Fukuoka. That is, Fukuoka does not teach or suggest determining if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction in response to receiving a request to remove selected information, and removing the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction.

Furthermore, there is not so much as a suggestion in the Fukuoka reference to modify the reference to include such features. That is, there is no teaching or suggestion in Fukuoka that a problem exists for which the use of bus systems in communication devices, the Internet as a convenient and efficient network, Web pages, browsers, credit cards, and applets, are a solution. To the contrary, Fukuoka only teaches removal of a user environment. Fukuoka does not recognize a need to determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction in response to receiving a request to remove selected information, and removing the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction, or similar subject matter, as recited in claims 8, 11, 12, 13, 21 and 25.

Moreover, neither Fukuoka nor the Official Notice teaches or suggests the desirability of incorporating the subject matter of the other reference. That is, there is no motivation offered in either reference for the alleged combination. The Office Action alleges that the motivation for the combination is "because it (a bus system) is a standard, efficient, fast, and cheap means of transmitting information within a system, because it (a credit card) is a convenient means of charging a bill, because it (the Internet) provides efficient and cheap access to a very large collection of nodes, because the Web is a cheap and effective component of the Internet, and because they (applets) are standard and efficient means of transmitting a process across the web." The Fukuoka reference does not determine if the selected information is no longer required for the transaction in response to receiving a request to remove selected information, and remove the selected non-required information from the stored information in response to the selected information no longer being required for the transaction. Thus, the only teaching or suggestion to even attempt the alleged combination is based on a prior knowledge of

Applicant's claimed invention thereby constituting impermissible hindsight reconstruction using Applicant's own disclosure as a guide.

One of ordinary skill in the art, being presented only with Fukuoka and the Official Notice, and without having a prior knowledge of Applicant's claimed invention, would not have found it obvious to combine and modify Fukuoka and Official Notice to arrive at Applicant's claimed invention. To the contrary, even if one were somehow motivated to combine Fukuoka and Official Notice, and it were somehow possible to combine the two systems, the result would not be the invention, as recited in claims 8, 11, 12, 13, 21 and 25. The result would be removing an entire user environment using a well known element.

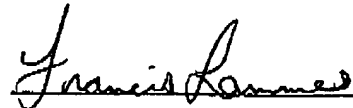
Thus, Fukuoka along with the Official Notice, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest all of the features in independent claims 8, 11, 12, 13, 21 and 25. At least by virtue of their dependency on claims 1, 8, 14 and 21, the specific features of claims 6, 7, 10, 19, 20, 23, 29, 30, 33 and 34 are not taught or suggested by Fukuoka along with the Official Notice, either alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-13, 19-23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the prior art of record and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: October 21, 2004



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